ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
HA 116.3/3911

May 26, 1937

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,

120 East Nineteenth Street,

New York, New York.

Madam:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of May 20, 1937, inquiring whether the originals of certain documents are in the files of the Department.

The original despatch of the American Minister to Great Britain, Charles Francis Adams, dated December 23, 1864 and received on January 7, 1865, and the original address of the Central Council of the International Workingmen's Association, enclosed in this despatch, are in the archives of the Department. The office copy of the Department's instruction to Mr. Adams, dated January 9, 1865, reads as follows:

> "I have received your dispatch of December 23rd, No 844, together with an address of the Central Council of the International Workingmen's Association to the President of the United States, a

copy

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copy of a letter which was written to you by Mr. C. Henry, General Secretary of the Council, in explanation of the origin of the address. These interesting papers have been submitted to the President.

So far as the sentiments expressed by the council are personal, they are accepted by the President with a sincere and anxious desire that he may be able to prove himself not unworthy the confidence which has been recently extended to him by his fellow citizens, and by so many of the friends of humanity and progress throughout the world.

The Government of the United States has a clear consciousness that its policy neither is nor could be reactionary, but at the same time it adheres to the course which it adopted at the beginning of abstaining everywhere from propagandism and unlawful intervention. It strives to do equal and exact justice to all States and to all men, and it relies upon the beneficial results of that effort for support at home, and for respect and good will throughout the world.

Nations do not exist for themselves alone but to promote the welfare and happiness of mankind by benevolent intercourse and example. It is in this relation that the United States regard their cause in the present conflict with slavery-maintaining insurgents as the cause of humane nature, and they desire new encouragement to persevere from the testimony of the working men of Europe that the national attitude is favored with their enlightened approbation and earnest sympathies.

You will please communicate these statements to the Council of Workingmen.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

William H. Seward."

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A copy of Mr. Adams' acknowledgment was transmitted to the Department in his despatch of February 2, 1865.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Carlton Savage

Carlton Savage,
Acting Historical Adviser.

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